



plain or turn away any one who wanted to take a picture with him. While we were back stage, at one point I asked him how does he deals with all the attention he received on a daily basis, not being able to do simple task as walking outside without being called by someone to take a picture etc. he answered with a smile, “after a while you get used to it”.

I also had a chance to meet the Grammy nominated singer KEM. I must admit, not growing up in Detroit, I didn't know much about him or his music. Once I found out he was also going to be performing at the event, I began to research and learned more about him. His story is truly remarkable. Here's a guy who started with absolutely nothing and to see where he is today should give everyone hope. I myself being from the island of Haiti can relate to his story. He seems to be so cool and smooth to me in his talk, walk and smile etc. At one point backstage, I began to tease him and asked him what can I do to be as cool as he is, he just smile. I called him Mr. Cool.

Next, I'll never forget meeting Haitian artists Belo. Once I found out he was going to perform at the event, I got really excited because I like his music and the style of music that he plays. One of his song that I really like and played every so often is titled “Lakou Lakay”. HNGD was kind enough to arrange a dinner for a more intimate setting between Belo and myself and I thank them very much for arranging it. He's a very kind and humble individual as well. I really enjoyed our conversation. We exchanged numbers and we now text each other from time to time. It was a great honor to meet him.



Enos Fabre & Mitch Album

Finally, I'll forever be thankful to Mitch Album for not just the opportunity to perform at the event but for all the great work he has done and continues to do in the community, especially in my home country Haiti. From

everything I know about Mitch, it seems everything he does revolves around giving and just making life better for people around him, even those he doesn't even know. That's special! Everyone one of my people that attended the event was calling me afterward to tell me how kind and humble Mitch was and I told them I've never seen him any different. It was truly an amazing night and a lot of money was raised for a very good cause. I was blessed and so glad to have been a part of it.

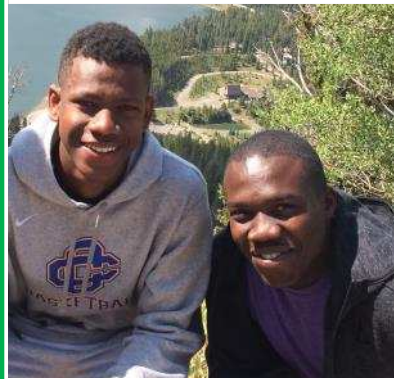
According to your celebratory or entertainment need, Enos Fabre can be contacted for occasions such as weddings, baptisms, anniversaries, art fairs, music festivals, fundraisers, open houses, and other banquets events. Send your booking requests to: efabremusic@gmail.com or call 248-895-3310. www.efabremusic.com ■

EDUCATION: A REALITY FOR SOME, A DREAM FOR MANY AND AN ILLUSION FOR COUNTLESS OTHERS.

by Emmanuel Gédéon



Emmanuel Gédéon and Siem Lafleur



Growing up in Haiti, I never imagined that I would be attending a university nor coming to the United States to do this. I grew up in an orphanage where the basic needs were barely provided. At that time, we did not have a lot of people helping us. However, things change when Mitch Album came to the orphanage after the earthquake, and we started to have a chance at life.

Although I spent years that I could not go to school, I had always valued the process of being able to learn and to read and write. At the time when a school was not a possibility, I tried reading random books that I found around the yard; trying to make something out of them. I never taught that it was boring, but I always felt ashamed that I could not attend a school as many other children.

I started to think differently about my situation, and questioned God asking why am I not able to go to school, be a normal child? One day standing in front of our gate I watched kids going to school, seeing them gave me hope. They were rushing with their nice backpacks and shoes; it seemed like they were on their way to the most beautiful place on earth. Suddenly, one kid saw me watching him, he was probably 9 years old, and could see through me that I somehow envied his chance to go to school. He looked at me, and I gazed into his eyes hoping for a bit of sympathy, but he ridiculed me because he knew that I wanted some part of what he had. My heart sank and my world darkened, I close the gate feeling empty inside.

After that incident, I started to take control of my life, taking charge of what I can and leaving the rest in God's hand. I share this anecdote because it changed me and made me see things differently. I could not control my inability to go to school, but I could control my actions. I always love to make this analogy with things in life, just as we have some parts in our body that we cannot control like our circulatory system, and some parts we can control like our hands and mouth. I stopped feeling bitter for not being able to go to school and started controlling what I could. So, I started reading alone and learning how to write, while waiting for a chance to go to school.

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